

From: David Gayvert
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 6:50pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir/Ma'am:

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed settlement of the alleged anti-trust case against Microsoft. It is clear that the public interest will be served by putting this most unjust lawsuit to rest.

It is critical to note that the action against Microsoft was not initiated in response to any significant complaint by consumers at large, but by Microsoft competitors who seek to gain in the courts what they cannot in the marketplace. It is advanced by government officials who seek to enlarge their reputations, and in many cases to fatten their state treasuries at Microsoft's expense. This cynical approach to promoting 'competition' in fact erodes consumer and investor confidence in free markets and those who excel in them. Microsoft may indeed employ aggressive business practises, but at the end of the day, they earned their dominance in the industry by providing what people want. No one held a gun to my head when I purchased Windows 98 or MS Office, nor have I been prevented from using Netscape as my default web browser in lieu of Explorer.

Real justice would require dropping completely the federal case against Microsoft and reimbursing it for the cost of defending itself against this most prejudiced of actions. As that is not a practical option, I reiterate my support for adoption of the proposed settlement of the case.

Sincerely,
David Gayvert
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